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character published in Montevideo. In this the author has succeeded admirably, but it is to be regretted that he did not prepare an index of authors, titles, etc., that would greatly facilitate the use of this work as a bibliographical source.

C. K. JONES.

Mexico in Revolution. By VICENTE BLASCO IBÁÑEZ. Translated by Arthur Livingston and José Padin. (New York: E. P. Dutton & Co., 1920. Pp. vii, 245. \$2.00.)

As explained by a slip pasted on the title page, "the articles in this volume were written originally at the request of and for 'The Chicago Tribune'". In his preface, the author states that his book consists of "simple impressions, hastily and incompletely jotted down as circumstances warranted or required. I regard them as first shots on the skirmish line, before my real battle, with all my heavy guns in action, begins." We are promised the final results of his observation and study on contemporary Mexico in his novel *The Eagle and the Snake*, but vague rumors, for which I can not vouch, have been heard to the effect that the novel will never appear because it was bought up by the Mexican government.

In his ten chapters, the author discusses in his racy, vigorous manner, the following matters: The cause of the revolution; The sad story of Flor de Te; "Citizen Obregón; The real author of Carranza's downfall; Carranza's official family; Condition of the country; The generals; The Mexican army; Mexico's ominous silence; and Mexico and the United States.

The volume is in many respects a satire on Mexico, rather than a sober portrayal of fact. It is not written from a sympathetic standpoint, and often, indeed, appears a burlesque. To this, the author might answer that that is the way Mexico impressed him, and of course, no rejoinder could be made to his reply. Let one not suppose that the book, notwithstanding its newspaper style, can be dismissed with a shrug of the shoulders. Blasco Ibáñez is too entertaining and too good a writer for that. He has instinctively picked out various features of Mexico of today and played upon them, not giving the whole truth, perhaps, nor yet missing the whole truth, but sometimes, especially to those who may know but little of Mexico, giving impressions that are far from the truth. His burlesque on the "General" business, is, as a friend of the reviewer has aptly said, refreshing, and he has here touched upon a real evil in Mexico. The last chapter on Mexico and the United States is not without interest to people in this country.

However, it is not books like this that are most needed about Mexico. We need books, and many of them, written in a calm, sympathetic spirit, that state both the evil and the good impartially. I can see how Blasco Ibáñez's book, with all its pleasantry, might even be a dangerous book unless it be offset by other works. Mexico needs not our laughter at this time, but our serious, and withal, honest, consideration. As a matter of fact, we of the United States have done very little toward helping Mexico to solve its latter-day problems; and we may not be assured in our self complacency that the dictates of history will not be against us in this regard.

How much the character of the book may have been changed in assuming an English dress, the present reviewer does not know.

JAMES ALEXANDER ROBERTSON.

Intimate Pages of Mexican History. By EDITH O'SHAUGHNESSY. (New York: George H. Doran Company, 1920. Pp. xii, 351.)

Like Mrs. O'Shaughnessy's other books, this is cleverly written and readable. Throughout, she has written in a spirit of the utmost sympathy with Mexico, and she has dared to question and even to condemn the policy of the United States with respect to that unfortunate country.

The volume deals mainly with the four presidents of Mexico whom the author has known, namely; Porfirio Díaz, the soldier and builder of modern Mexico prior to the late period of revolution; Francisco Leon de la Barra, the astute ad-interim president (*el blanco presidente*); Francisco I. Madero, the reckless and unstable idealist; and Victoriano Huerta, the Indian, sinning and sinned against, whose face was "dark, flat, cruel, crafty, strong, relentless, but possessed of a strong sense of humor". She has little sympathy for Madero, notwithstanding his evident honesty, but for the others, especially for Díaz, whom she admires, perhaps excessively and extravagantly, she has a ready and contagious friendliness, while Huerta gains new dignity. Of Carranza and the revolutionary leaders, Zapata, Pelaez, Villa, and others, little is said, and that, in general, not complimentary.

Her book is largely one of reminiscences and she relates in connection with the four presidents above named her own experiences, although she is tempted at times to enlarge her field with narrative gleaned from her reading or learning of history. As a volume of this type, it is well worth reading, but Mrs. O'Shaughnessy was too near many of the events she has described, was too intimately connected with them as an eyewitness, for her work to take first rank among books on Mexico.